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UNCLE SAM'S FOREST RANGERS #524

PROGRAM TITLE

NATIONAL FARM & HOME HOUR

ADVERTISER

AGENCY

WRITER

THURSDAY, MARCH 4, 1943

DAY & DATE

11:30 A.M.-12:00 NOON CWT BLUE

TIME

PRODUCTION NOTESCHARACTERSCAST

JERRY - JOHN LARKIN
 MARY - LUCILE HUSTING
 BESS - KATHERINE CARD
 JIM - HARVEY HAYS
 RIDER - LOU KRUGMAN

SOUNDREMARKS

MASTER Attached as broadcast:

This copy represents as accurately as possible the program. All alterations made in dramatic and/or musical content are contained herein.

Orchestra Leader

Production Director

Announcer

Agency Producer or Announcer

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1. ANNOUNCER: Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers!
2. MUSIC: Theme
3. ANNOUNCER: The biggest job of Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers these days is
4. helping to get out the timber needed for war, and at the
5. same time save an ample growing stock of timber for the days
6. to come..... But the timber job is by no means the Forest
7. Rangers' only war job.....Mines of precious war metals must
8. be opened up by new roads into wild and hitherto inaccessible
9. country; range lands must be kept productive to supply meat,
10. wool and leather; forest fires which might seriously impede
11. the war effort must be constantly guarded against. The
12. Forest Rangers help also in War Board and other civilian and
13. community activities, especially in the Food for Freedom
14. drive. And on occasion, they are called upon to perform
15. their sworn duties as law enforcement officers. But that's
16. part of today's story so let's hurry along to the Pine Cone
17. Ranger Station. We find our friends enjoying a quiet
18. evening by the fire in the livingroom. Present are Ranger
19. Jim Robbins, his wife Bess, and his young assistant, Jerry
20. Quick, and also Jerry's sweetheart, the local schoolma'am,
21. Mary Halloway.
22. JERRY: (FADING IN) Shucks, Jim, sometimes I wish it was like the
23. old days around here, when it was really wild, but I guess
24. the Old West is dead for sure now.
25. MARY: Jerry, you're being silly.

CHAPTER 1. THE HISTORY OF THE

The history of the world is a long and varied one, and it is one that has been the subject of much speculation and debate. The world has been shaped by the actions of many different peoples and nations, and it is the result of a complex interplay of forces. The history of the world is a story of growth and change, of progress and regression, of hope and despair. It is a story that has been told in many different ways, and it is one that continues to be told today. The history of the world is a story that is full of meaning and purpose, and it is one that we should all be proud to know.

1. JERRY: No I'm not, Mary. Jim was just telling about the Wild West
2. of the old days....when you could hear gunfire thunder through
3. the canyons and the blood of battling gunmen made the creeks
4. run red and.....

5. MARY: Jerry, Mr. Robbins never said that at all.

6. JIM: (CHUCKLING) Let him go on, Mary. I'm enjoyin' this.

7. JERRY: Okay, okay, but the only time you get any excitement around
8. here nowadays is when you go to the movies.

9. JIM: You're kinda forgetting there's a war on now, aren't you,
10. Jerry?

11. BESS: Yes, Jerry. Suppose we were invaded.

12. JERRY: Well, I'm banking on our army and navy and airforces to keep
13. that from happening.

14. MARY: Sure. And that's what we're buying our War Bonds for,
15. isn't it?

16. JERRY: You betcha.

17. JERRY: Anyway, even if we were invaded the enemy wouldn't pick this
18. backwoods place up here to land on.

19. JIM: The Japs did drop a bomb over on the Siskiyou National Forest
20. not so long ago, Jerry.

21. JERRY: Yeah, I know. There's plenty of excitement in the war all
22. right...for some guys. Me? I spent all day today marking
23. timber.

24. BESS: But that's a very important war job, Jerry. We need that
25. timber for the war.

1. JERRY: Sure...if that's my job in the war right now, I'll stick to
2. it and do my best. Okay. But you gotta admit it ain't very
3. exciting. Like I was saying, I kinda wish I'd been born
4. thirty or forty years sooner so I coulda been a ranger in the
5. old days of highwaymen robbin' the stage coach, and the
6. sheriff's posse on the trail, battling it out to the last man
7. in the big timber. And stuff like that. You know....a little
8. excitement every morning for breakfast.

9. JIM: I can't say I'm hankerin' for that sort of thing any more.

10. BESS: Neither am I. If the old west has changed, I'd say it's
11. changed for the better.

12. JERRY: Yeah, I s'pose so, Mrs. Robbins. The old West is dead.

13. MARY: And we're all glad it is....except Jerry.

14. JIM: Yes, things have changed a lot, but I wouldn't say the old
15. wild west is altogether dead. Maybe the hills aren't full
16. of outlaws any more, but we still have a law endorcement job
17. to do around here now and then, you know. Given the right
18. mixture of circumstances -- a desperate man, these rugged
19. hills and all, and you could have a shooting mess on your
20. hands in a jiffy.....I reckon havin' to endorce the law in
21. his Forest is about the meanest and least-liked job a
22. Forest Ranger has gotta do.

23. BESS: Yes, Jim, that's true. And the one that causes us Rangers'
24. wives the most worry.

25. JERRY: Uh huh. Just the same it seems like nothing exciting ever
happens around here.

1. TELEPHONE RINGS OFF, REPEAT

2. BESS: It's the telephone, Jim.

3. JIM: Yeah. I'll get it. (FOOTSTEPS - JIM AD LIBS ON PHONE OFF)

4. JERRY: Now back in the old days I was talking about...you didn't
5. have any telephone then. I suppose it took that to make the
6. West wild...no telephones, no radio, no cars, no airoplanes...
7. when men had to ride hard and long and...

8. MARY: Jerry, will you please stop!

9. BESS: (LAUGHING) Yes, Jerry. Maybe you'd better go take a brisk
10. walk or something and get it out of your system...(AS RECEIVE
11. IS HUNG UP, OFF - WORRIED) Jim, what's the matter? You look
12. so serious.

13. JIM: (COMING ON) Bad news, Bess.

14. JERRY: What is it, Jim?

15. JIM: That was Sheriff Tucker on the phone. He says they've got
16. word that Bob Rider...

17. MARY: The Ghost Desperado?

18. JIM: Yes, Mary, the Ghost Desperado, as the papers call him.

19. JERRY: Hey, what's going on here? You trying to kid me, Jim?

20. JIM: I wish I was, Jerry, but it's true enough. They've trailed
21. Rider here to the Pine Cone.

22. BESS: Oh, Jim.

23. JIM: The sheriff wants Jerry and me to join the posse first thing
24. in the morning. Tucker said Rider's trying to hole up
25. somewhere up on Windy Mountain - that's our national forest
country - so that puts it up to us to help rout him out.

1. JERRY: I wish somebody would tell me who this guy Rider is. If you
 2. folks are trying to play some joke on me....

3. MARY: (SERIOUS) Jerry, if only you'd read the papers occasionally
 4. you'd know that this Rider, the Ghost Desperado, is one of
 5. the most notorious outlaws in this part of the State.

6. BESS: Yes, Jerry. He's wanted for draft evasion and dozens of
 7. burglaries. You must have heard about him.

8. JERRY: No. This is all news to me. That name - Ghost Desperado -
 9. that seems too good to be true. How did he come by that?

10. JIM: The Police and federal officers have been after Rider for
 11. almost a year and

12. JERRY: Federal authorities, too, Jim?

13. JIM: Yep, they've been after him too on account of the draft
 14. evasion charge, but he's given 'em all the slip time after
 15. time - like a Ghost, see? I never through about him getting
 16. into our country but....well, here he is, and I guess we've
 17. got a job to do, Jerry.

18. JERRY: (CHUCKLES) Well, I s'pose this is some of that Return of
 19. the Old West stuff we were talking about, huh, Jim? Okay,
 20. I'll be with you tomorrow morning, but I'll just bet you
 21. this Ghost Outlaw or whatever he thinks he is, turns out to
 22. be some poor goof who's been reading too many Western
 23. thrillers. He'll give up easy enough when we catch up with
 24. him, I betcha.

25. BESS: Jerry, this is no joking matter. You and Jim have got to
 be careful, very careful.

1. JERRY: (LAUGHS) Oh yeah, sure.

2. MARY: (CONCERNED) Jerry, please be serious about this. Mrs.

3. Robbins is right.

4. JERRY: Sure. Sure.

5. JIM: Quite a die-hard, ain't you, Jerry? Well, I better oil up

6. that old forty-five of mine. (GOING OFF) It's still in the

7. big chest, isn't it, Bess?

8. BESS: (CALLS) Yes, Jim. Right where you put it.

9. JERRY: Hey, wait a minute. Is Jim really going to work on his gun?

10. BESS: Yes, Jerry, and if you're smart you'll check your own rifle,

11. too.

12. JERRY: (SERIOUS) Holy Smokes, I had no idea. (LAUGHS WEAKLY) Aw,

13. I still say the West of Yesterday is gone, gone forever, and

14. tomorrow (FADE) morning will prove I'm right, you'll see...

15. MUSICAL INTERLUDE

16. FADE IN CRUNCH OF FOOTSTEPS ON GRAVEL, SUSTAIN

17. JIM: (SOTTO) Not too much noise now, Jerry. If Sheriff Tucker's

18. right this Rider fella might be hiding out almost anywhere

19. around here.

20. JERRY: (SOTTO) Golly, Jim, what did you pick this way for? This

21. is doggonned risky, if you ask me.

22. JIM: I know this trail better'n the rest of the posse. They're

23. workin' their way up from the other side.

24. JERRY: Yeah, but s'posin' this fellow Rider pops out on us from

25. around one of those turns up ahead?

1. JIM: Well, we'll have to keep our eyes open....Maybe he'd be just
 2. as surprised as we'd be, Jerry. I don't reckon he's got any
 3. idea we've trailed him so far or so fast. It's my guess that
 4. Mr. Ghost Desperado isn't going to....

5. RIDER: (DEADLY OFF) You boys looking for something....or somebody?

6. JERRY: (WHISPERS FRANTICALLY) Golly, look, Jim. Up there on the
 7. rocks...It's...it must be Rider....we're sunk, Jim....

8. JIM: Hold it, Jerry. (CALLS FIRMLY) Listen, Rider, if you're
 9. not all loco you'll come peaceable. You haven't got a
 10. chance. There's a lot of other men...

11. RIDER: (LAUGHS HARSHLY, OFF) Listen to the pretty guys in the green
 12. uniform, will yuh...You just keep your hand away from your....

13. JERRY: Look out, Jim! He's gonna shoot! Jim!!

14. SOUND TWO SHOTS IN CLOSE SUCCESSION, ECHOING AWAY, SLIGHT PAUSE

15. JERRY: (WEAKLY) Jim...Jim, you all right?

16. JIM: I'm okay, Jerry.

17. JERRY: Rider? Where is he, Jim? I don't see him.

18. JIM: He's down in the brush, by that rock, Jerry.

19. JERRY: Whew! Jim, you...you didn't....

20. JIM: No, just winged him, I reckon....It was a case of who shot
 21. first and, well, I guess I was just a mite faster on the
 22. trigger than he was.... Jerry, you're white as a sheet, boy.
 23. Here, sit down here.

24. JERRY: No. No thanks, Jim. I'm all right....

25. JIM: I'm keepin' Rider covered 'till the rest of the boys come up,
 Jerry. They sure musta heard the shootin', so they oughta
 be along any minute.

1. JERRY: Yeah....Good gravy, Jim...do you realize you beat that bird
 2. to the punch, and he had his gun up to start with?
 3. JIM: Uh huh. (CHUCKLING) Say, weren't you the boy that was sayin'
 4. we didn't have any excitement around here last night...wishin'
 5. for the old Wild West and all?
 6. JERRY: Uh.....yeah, I....whew, Jim, I guess she's still plenty wild
 7. enough to suit me.....

8. MUSICAL FINALE

9. ANNOUNCER: Farm and Home Hour listeners may be interested to know that
 10. today's Forest Rangers story has a close parallel in real
 11. life. Last December one of Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers in
 12. California, as a member of a posse of deputy sheriffs and
 13. Federal agents, brought to justice a notorious outlaw of
 14. that State by beating him to the draw, thus terminating the
 15. desperado's long series of crimes including burglaries,
 16. thefts, and draft evasion....This program is heard each week
 17. during the National Farm and Home Hour as a network
 18. presentation with the cooperation of the Forest Service,
 19. United States Department of Agriculture.....

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JLL: 10:30
 3/2/43

